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24. (New) A television camera system comprising a lens device according to claim 19 and a camera connected to said lens device.

REMARKS

I. Status Of The Claims

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application.

Corrected drawings are requested in compliance with MPEP 608.02(g).

Claims 1-9 and 11-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mabuchi et al. (US 5,485,208).

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mabuchi et al. in view of Kawasaki et al. (US 5,068,680).

With this response, claims 1-18 are cancelled and claims 19-24 are added.

II. Drawings

Citing MPEP 608.02(g), the Examiner has indicated that “[f]igures 5-7 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated”.

With this response, Applicants amend figures 5-7 in compliance with the Examiner’s request.

III. New Claims 19-24

In the Mabuchi reference (US 5,485,208), it is stated that “each command for use in initial communication is employed in a common manner irrespective of the way in which

camera and lens assemblies are combined with each other” (see column 12, lines 58-61).

Mabuchi thus indicates that the interface of the camera is identical to the interface of the lens.

Accordingly, Mabuchi fails to disclose:

“... a switching circuit that switches an electrical interface in said lens device to be adaptable to said camera, wherein the electrical interface of said camera is not identical to said electrical interface in said lens device.”

as stated in new claim 19. The reference therefore fails to show the lens device of new claim 19.

In view of at least the foregoing, claim 19 is thought to be allowable over the cited references. Further, claims 20-24 which depend therefrom are thought to be allowable for at least the same reasons.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance for which action is earnestly solicited.

If a telephone conference would facilitate prosecution of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4527. **A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.**

Furthermore, in the event that any further extension of time is required, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to

make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to the above-noted Deposit Account and Order No.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: March 18, 2003

By:



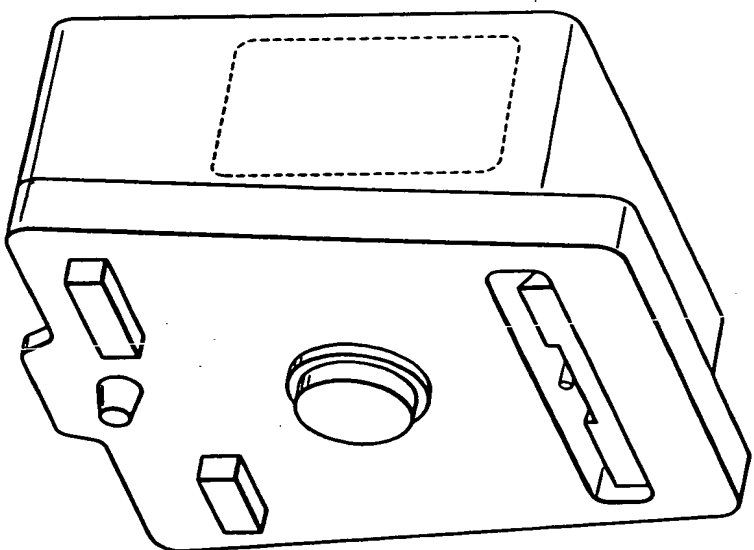
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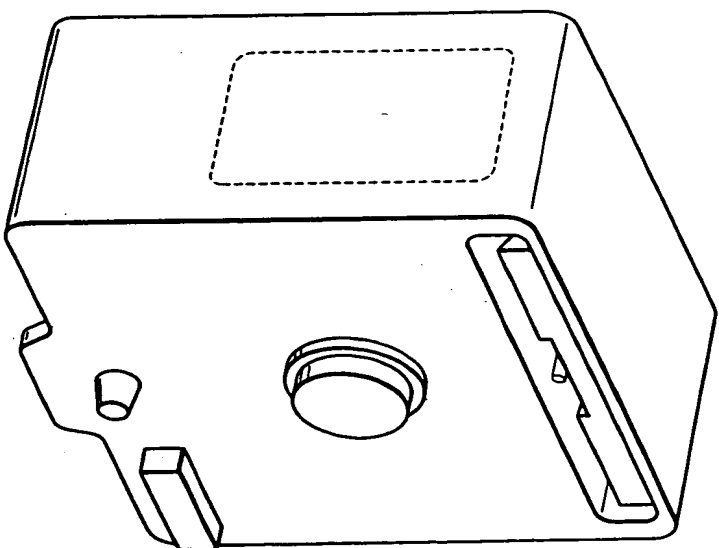


FIG. 6



PRIOR ART

FIG. 7

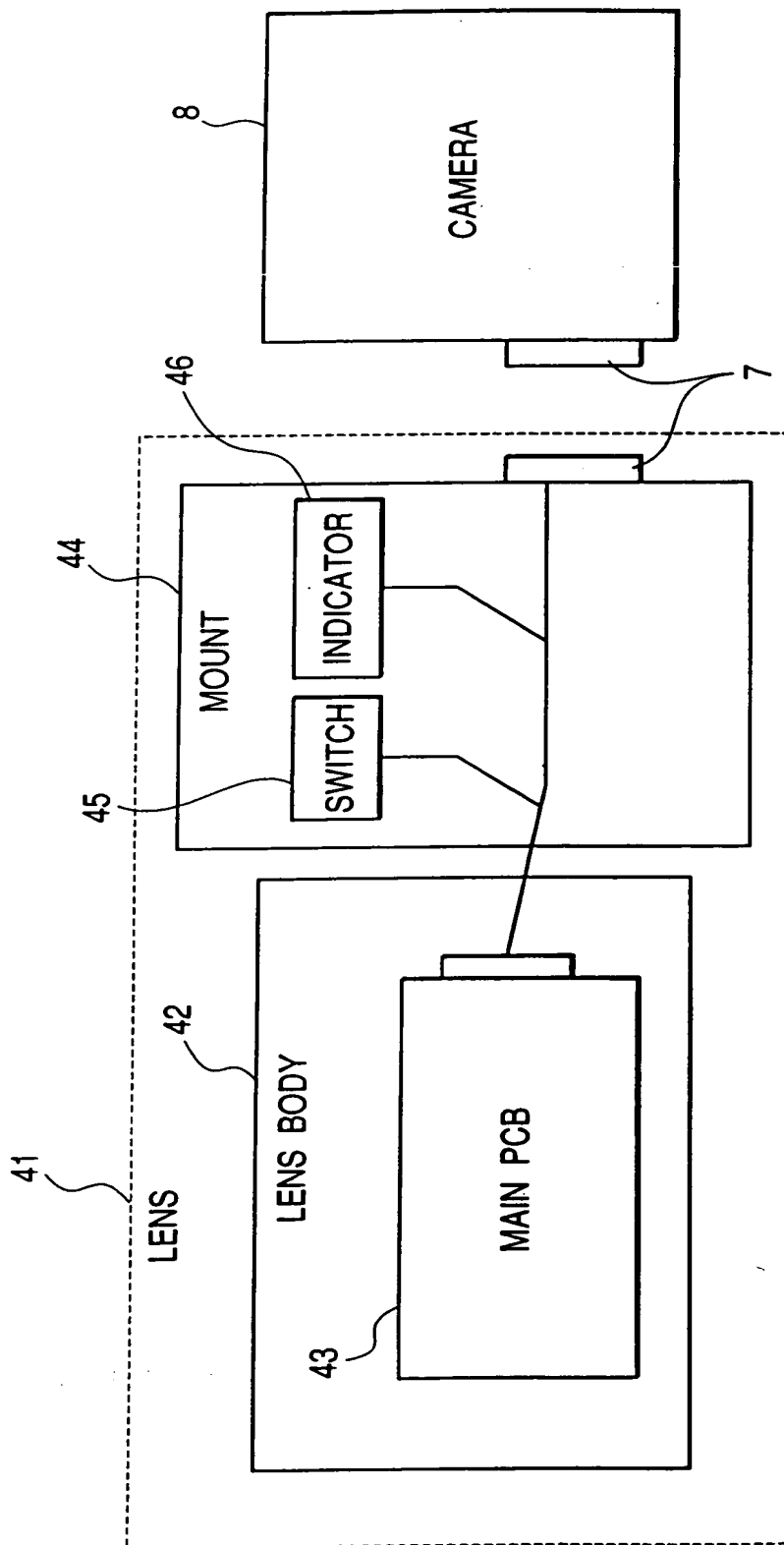


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FIG. 5



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